



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Federal Subsistence Board

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What is *Partners for Fisheries Monitoring*?

Partners for Fisheries Monitoring (Partners) is a new program that helps local and tribal organizations hire fisheries biologists and social scientists. These new staff will assist rural and Native organizations to collect and share information about subsistence fisheries harvest and fish populations.

The *Partners* Program is a critical element of the larger *Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program* started in 2000. *Partners* positions will be working to ensure the success of the studies already funded through the *Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program* (Program). Scientists collect important information needed to manage Alaska's subsistence fisheries. This *Program* is funding 163 fisheries projects statewide, working with State, Federal, tribal and other scientists.

Who are the *Partners*?

Partners are full-time year-round biologist and social scientist positions. The first seven of these positions will be working in the Yukon, Kuskokwim, Bristol Bay-Alaska Peninsula, and Southcentral Alaska Regions. Funds are also provided in each region for student interns so that tribal and rural youth can be trained to do fisheries work. Additional positions may be hired in the future.

Local and tribal organizations competitively seek funding to participate as *Partners*. Selected *Partners* sign cooperative agreements with the Office of Subsistence Management and agree to fund a portion of the cost of the positions. These agreements may last as long as five years, depending on annual reviews and availability of funds.

What do the *Partners* positions do?

Staff provide needed skills to help rural and Native organizations:

- To plan and conduct fisheries monitoring studies and subsistence fisheries harvest assessments
- To conduct community outreach and education, training, and coordination of subsistence fisheries monitoring activities

For more information, please contact Tom Kron at the Office of Subsistence Management, (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3604 (tom_kron@fws.gov), or fax: (907) 786-3612. TTY users may call through the Federal Relay Service on (800) 877-8339. Please visit our homepage at: alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html.